

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 NEA-10 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /081 W

-----048445 310519Z /23

R 260913Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5602

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

USMISSION USUN NY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PDIP, RW, SS

SUBJECT: WESTERN SAHARA/POLISARIO: RWANDAN VIEWS

1. FONMIN NSEKALIJE WAS ASKED BY NEWSMEN EARLIER THIS WEEK HOW RWANDA VIEWED GROWING TENSIONS IN WESTERN SAHARA AND WHETHER GOR, LIKE ZAIRE, SUPPORTED MOROCCO AGAINST POLISARIO.

2. NSEKALIJE FIRST CHALLENGED ASSERTION THAT ZAIRE SIDED WITH MOROCCO, SAYING ZAIRE -- LIKE RWANDA -- BELIEVED ABOVE ALL IN SELF-DETERMINATION OF SAHARAN PEOPLE. THIS PRINCIPLE, HE CONTINUED, HAD LED RWANDA ALONG WITH BURUNDI AND ZAIRE (SIC) TO RECOGNIZE SAHARAN ARAB REPUBLIC AS VALID EXPRESSION OF SAHARAN SELF-DETERMINATION.

3. AT SAME TIME, NSEKALIJE ADDED, RWANDAN ACT OF RECOGNITION SHOULD NOT BE CONSTRUED AS "RADICAL POSTURE" AND ITS DIPLOMATIC AND POLITICAL COMMITMENT DID NOT EXTEND ANY FURTHER. "WE'RE TOO FAR AWAY FROM SCENE
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REALLY TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON THERE OR TO TAKE SIDES," HE SAID, ADDING RWANDA DEPENDS ON COUNTRIES OF THAT REGION -- MOROCCO, MAURITANIA, SENEGAL, MALI, AND ALGERIA - TO KEEP GOR AU COURANT.

4. COMMENT: TYPICALLY, GOR STRIKES A PROGRESSIVE OAU-LINING POSE, THEN WATERS IT DOWN.

CRIGLER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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